

The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

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1st V.P. Glenn Sanders
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Sec. John T. Attaway
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Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt
and Joe Bert



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Volume 16, Number 1

THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January, 2016

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 21 at 7 PM, early arrivals from 6 PM

Club starts 2016 with solid membership and healthy coffers

Club Meeting Calendar for 2016

Jan. 21	May 19	Sep. 15
Feb. 18	June 16	Oct. 20
Mar. 17	July 21	Nov. 16
Apr. 21	Aug. 18	Dec. 15

Club financially sound with active membership as Newsletter begins 16th Year of publication

With the beginning of 2016, the club finds itself in a healthy state financially and with a more active membership participating both at our monthly meetings and semi-annual shows. In 2015, the ACC struck its eleventh medallion, a series begun in 2005 commemorating its 50th anniversary.



The 2015 ACC Medallion featuring the Augusta Arsenal struck in silver wash.

On May 13 & 14, 2016, a Friday and Saturday, the club will hold its next show at the Columbia County Exposition Center in Grovetown, GA just off I-20, Interchange 190. The attractive site and location has shown an increase in attendance and is popular with the dealers. A new motel is being erected near the site which should benefit those travelling to the show from out of town. The dates of the spring 2016 show were moved back to the third weekend to avoid conflicting with the Columbia, SC club's show scheduled for the previous week. As such, the new dates will be held the week after Mother's Day. Our first club meeting of the New Year will be held this coming Thursday, Jan. 21 at the Sunrise Grill. There will be a program and auction. Please bring in a numismatic item for show & Tell.

Report on the 2016 FUN Show



A 1907 \$5.00 Liberty Gold Half-Eagle graded MS-64 by PCGS
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Since moving to the CSRA, in December of 2000, the editor has attended the FUN show 14 out of the past 15 years. It is usually held in Orlando, FL but on occasion, elsewhere in the sunshine state. Sponsored by the Florida United Numismatists the show boasts not only the largest bourse in the United States but also serves as the bellwether for the numismatic marketplace for the year,

This year, the show was moved from Orlando to Tampa which added an hour more to the usual seven hour drive from Augusta, but from this collector's overall impression of the show was well worth the minor inconvenience. The bourse was one of the largest I have ever seen and the attendance was strong and continuous throughout the four day event held from Thursday, Jan. 7 thru Sun., Jan. 10, 2016. Two of the major hotels sponsored by the organizers were within a short walking distance to the Tampa Convention Center.

It is said that if you cannot find a particular coin you are looking for at FUN, it probably is either temporarily out of circulation for collectors or it no longer exists. This year, the writer wanted to fill a few year sets needing one or two coins for completion. He had acquired the 1907 cent thru the half-dollar earlier and most of the other gold denominations well before 2011, the year gold had peaked needing only the common date 1907 \$5.00 gold Liberty half-eagle, (*a coin with a diameter of 21.6 mm.*) On the PCGS Collectors Corner Web Site the examples shown were not all that attractive or in the higher BU grades at mega prices but after only an hour on the bourse the first day of the show, the specimen shown above was found.

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Report on the 2016 FUN Show

(Continued from previous page)

While there were many other desirable numismatic items available to the collector at the FUN show, one of the more important aspects of the event were the wonderful displays attendees could examine in the exhibit area. You did not have to be a collector of ancients to appreciate the exhibit on the 12 Caesars of Rome highlighted by the outstanding examples of the large copper coin known as the sestertius representing each emperor. The balance between numismatic information, images of each emperor and the coin representing them was perfect. The obsolete paper money exhibits were also outstanding but the one that probably caught most observers' eye was the one showing the HO gauge train track maneuvering its way through the obsolete southern bank notes, some that were extremely rare. Of the US coins group, two stood out for this observer, the one on the 2¢ piece, (1864-1873)--which like the previously mentioned "12 Caesars"--was perfectly balanced between outstanding numismatic examples of the denomination, numismatic and historic information along with magnified close-up lenses above the more unusual varieties. The other US exhibit that caught this collector's attention was the one on US transitional dates going back to the first year of the large cent, 1793 and extending thru 1938, the year the Jefferson nickel replaced the Buffalo nickel. The writer has also been enamored of this category, because it provides variety through the acquisition of two, sometimes three design types or sub-types displaying the same date.



Obverses of the 1916 Barber and Mercury dimes,
One of the more common transitional date couplings



Obverses of the 1916 Barber and Standing Liberty quarters,
One of the scarce transitional date couplings

Attending a large regional coin affords the serious collector a bounty of numismatic options. If you need a specific denomination that is not a particularly common date to complete a year set, such as a 1909 "V": nickel, you may be fortunate to come across a few certified specimens in grades ranging from AU-58 to MS-65. Depending on your discretionary income, you can either choose the nicest one within grade that you can afford or pass on all of them if they do not meet your personal criteria of eye appeal. The 1909 "V" nickel with a mintage of just 11,885,763 had the lowest mintage for type of all 20th Century issues excluding the 1912 D & S pieces.



A 1909 Liberty nickel graded MS-65 by PCGS
Acquired at the FUN-2016 Show

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Due to the tremendous increase in the number of collectors that entered the hobby after 2000, even common dates of a series or a particular year set are becoming increasingly more difficult to find. One would think that a number of certified specimens ranging between AU-58 and MS-65 of the 1908-O Barber half-dollar--a coin with a mintage of 5,360,000, the second highest of the 73 piece series--would be a readily available at a show the size of FUN but the author came across only one of the date during the first three days of the show.



A 1908-O Barber half-dollar graded MS-63 by PCGS
Also acquired at the FUN Show

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The example shown above is lustrous and exceptionally well struck for a New Orleans Mint specimen, a date which usually appears somewhat "mushy" compared with Philadelphia Mint examples. Finding an acceptable single specimen of even a common date you may be seeking is better than none, which is still another reason why one should consider attending a regional show, especially as large as FUN. MS-63 Barber halves, while not as spectacular in appearance or as expensive as MS-64 and 65 examples, can still be attractive if somewhat pricey yet attainable if the collector saves up for them a few months in advance of a major numismatic event or brings coins from his/her collection to sell or trade.



An 1881 Shield nickel graded MS PF-65 by PCGS

During the past several years, dealers have been selling an increasing number of proof specimens of late 19th and early 20th century US type coins and the 2016 FUN show was no exception. Despite far lower mintages than business strikes, most proofs were saved, with the result that survivors are becoming far more common than the business strike issues.

**AUGUSTA COIN CLUB, INC.
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 17, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sunrise Grill by President, Steve Nix. We had 53 members present and 3 guests.

Secretary's Report:

The November 19, 2015 minutes was not read. A copy is kept on file.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report read by Elaine Attaway was read and approved. We have \$9,537.43 deposited in the checking account. Revenue was from the 50/50 drawing and a \$1,255.00 profit from the Fall Show.

Prize Winners:

Winner of the 50/50 raffle was Sam Williamson (\$82.00). Allen Williamson won a 2015 Christmas one ounce Silver Bar, Steve Nix won a 2015 Christmas one ounce silver bar, John Attaway won a 2015 Christmas one ounce silver bar.

Fall Coin Show November 21 (Friday) and November 22nd (Saturday) 2015:

David Chism – Bourse Chairman. The Fall Coin Show was held at the Columbia County Exhibition Center located at the Grovetown Wal-Mart at Exit 190. Show was a success. Five Hundred Fifty postcards were sent out, donated by Sammy Lucky. 52 Tables were sold. 300 people attended the show both days.

Show & Tell:

Shelby Plooester showed a 1923 Star Note large size silver certificate. Jim Barry showed a 18-12 BC Augustus Ancient Coin. John Mason showed a \$500 bill that he picked up at the Augusta Show. Arno showed a 1795 US Five Dollar Gold Coin replica struck in 1995 by the Gallery Mint

Program:

Thee was no program. Instead, refreshments provided by the membership were enjoyed by all. Thanks for the effort taken to provide the said goodies. The food was blessed by Glenn Sanders.

Our 2015 Augusta CC Medallion of the Augusta Arsenal located at Augusta University on Walton Way was available at this meeting. Antique copper, antique bronze and silver wash, 3 types of metals: One for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$28.00. The 2016 **Red Books** are \$10.00 each.

Old Business:

We had 3 juniors draw for the junior box. Since our newsletters are no longer being mailed, a hard copy will be available at our monthly meeting. Make sure we have your email address.

New Business:

Nominating Committee Chairman J.C. Williams closed nominations from the floor. Secretary John Attaway cast one ballot for the following slate of officers for the 2016 year. President - Steve Nix; 1st Vice President - Glenn Sanders; 2nd Vice President - Howard Black; Secretary - John Attaway; Treasurer - Stacey Plooester; Board of Directors - Larry Lucree, J.C. Williams and Bill Orne; Sergeants in Arms - Bryan Hoyt and Joe Bert.

2016 Dues of \$15.00 will be due at the Jan. 21 club meeting.. A Board meeting is scheduled for 1/14/16 starting at 7 PM at the at Sunrise Grill. A bus trip to the GNA Convention on Saturday, April 16, 2016 is in the works.

Area Shows:

Fun Show – Tampa, Florida, January 7-10, 2016

Auction:

Glenn Sanders ran the auction (11 members). Shelby Plooester and Mike Joesbury delivered the goods as the auction was carried on therefore speeding the auction up. Bids recorder was David Chism.

*Respectively Submitted,
John Thomas Attaway*

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